

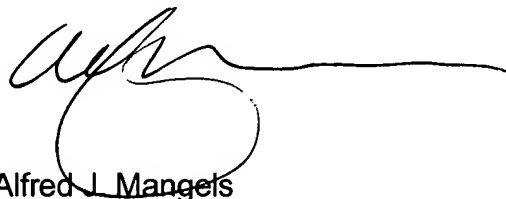
REMARKS

The substitute specification together with the claim and drawing amendments place the present application in better form for examination on the merits.

Based upon the specification, drawing, and claim amendments to this application, it is believed that the substitute specification and the amended drawings conform with all formal requirements. Additionally, the amended claims as hereinabove presented conform in substance with the corresponding originally-filed claims.

Should the examiner have any question after considering this Preliminary Amendment, he or she is cordially invited to telephone the undersigned attorney so that any such question can be quickly resolved in order that the present application can proceed toward allowance.

Respectfully submitted,



Alfred J. Mangels
Reg. No. 22,605
4729 Cornell Road
Cincinnati, Ohio 45241
Tel.: (513) 469-0470

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